

Appl. No. 09/877,317
Amdt. dated March 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 6, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The specification is amended to add a summary. Applicants believe there is no statutory requirement to include a summary, but in the interests of quickly furthering prosecution, one is added.

Additionally, the claims are modified in the amendment. More specifically, claim 19 has been amended. Therefore, claims 1-21 are present for examination.

No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection, Second Paragraph

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. This claim is amended in such a way that the scope of the claim is unaffected. No new matter is added by this amendment.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection, Arsenault et al.

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,528 to Arsenault et al. (hereinafter "Arsenault"). There were some corrections to the filing receipt that may have confused the Office, but the corrected filing receipt mailed on April 9, 2002 is believed to accurately reflect the priority claim. After inspection of the priority claim and the various priority documents, Applicants believe Arsenault is not prior art as it was filed January 26, 2000. For example, Provisional Patent No. 60/163,324 (the "Parent Application"), filed on November 3, 1999, is in the priority claim for the present application. Among possible other locations, the claims are supported in the Parent Application on page 11, line 23 through page 13, line 19; in Figures 9 and 10; and claim 5.

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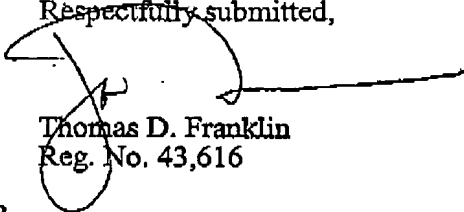
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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